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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/810,949	03/16/2001	Toshihiro Shima	04783/018001	3378

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EXAMINER	
POON, KING Y	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2624	

DATE MAILED: 04/11/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/810,949	SHIMA, TOSHIHIRO	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	King Y. Poon	2624	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *08 November 2004*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-29* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) *16-18 and 27-29* is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-6,8-14 and 19-26* is/are rejected.

7)☒ Claim(s) *7 and 15* is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *16 March 2001* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☒ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *3/11/2003, 12/12/2003*
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Applicant's election without traverse of restriction requirement in the reply filed on 11/8/2004 is acknowledged.

Claim Objections

2. Claims 7, 15 are objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(c) as being in improper form because a multiple dependent claim cannot depend from any other multiple dependent claim. See MPEP § 608.01(n). Accordingly, the claims have not been further treated on the merits.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless – (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 1, 8-14, 19-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kurachi (US 6,181,436).

Regarding claim 1: Kurachi teaches a printer (3, fig. 1) to be connected to a host machine (1, fig. 1), comprising: job accepting means (print data receiving device, column 9, lines 8-10) for accepting a job in a form of print job data from said host machine; assigning means (e.g., the component of the printer, column 9, lines 13-17,

that recorded the reception time, column 10, lines 20-27; note, inherently, the reception time must be recorded by a reception means) for issuing identifying information (the reception time, column 10, lines 20-27) for the accepted job and assigning the issued identifying the information; generating means (print data converting device, column 9, line 10) for generating, as a process for the job, image data on the basis of the print job data; print means (output engine, column 9, lines 15-20) for control on print to a print recording medium on the basis of the generated image data as a process for the job; and job managing means (control program, column 9, lines 10-18) for managing the accepted job on the basis of the identifying information (column 10, lines 20-27).

Regarding claim 19: Kurachi teaches the printer is to be connected to a host machine on a network through a network interface (column 7, lines 21-25, fig. 1).

Regarding claims 8, 20: Kurachi teaches printer further comprising job manage request accepting means (the component of the printer that accepts print job management information such as a print job name from the host, column 9, lines 30-37) for accepting a job manage request (e.g., print job management request, column 9, lines 34-37, request of sending execution situation, column 9, lines 45-52, delete, stop, or setting priority of a print job, fig. 5) containing identifying information from the host machine (column 9, lines 32-36).

Regarding claims 9, 21: Kurachi teaches wherein said job managing means specifies a predetermined job identifying information (column 9, lines 30-37, such as the print job name information will be managed under print job name, data size information

will be managed under data size, etc.) contained in the accepted predetermined job manage request.

Regarding claims 10, 22: Kurachi teaches wherein said job managing means controls at least any of said job accepting means, said generating means and said printing means to suspend from processing the job specified on the basis of the identifying information where the accepted job manage request is a job cancel request (stop or deletion of a print job, column 11, lines 50-53, fig. 5).

Regarding claims 11, 23: Kurachi teaches wherein the respective ones of said job manage request accepting means, said generating means and said printing means process for a job other than the specified job where controlled by said job managing means to suspend a process for the specified job (user can select a tentative stop for the process of the print job, column 11, lines 38-44; note: the stop is for the selected print job; therefore would not affect the process of the other print jobs).

Regarding claims 12, 24: Kurachi, wherein said job managing means controls said printing means before controlling said job accepting means and said generating means (inherent properties of a CPU, column 7, lines 45-46; a CPU controls different devices at different time; i.e., at a certain time, the printing means must be controlled before other devices).

Regarding claims 13, 25: Kurachi teaches wherein at least any of said job manage request accepting means, said generating means and said printing means notifies said job managing means of a status of a process for the job (execution situation, column 9, lines 50-51).

Regarding claims 14, 26: Kurachi teaches wherein job managing means notifies a predetermined host machine (the computer that is requesting, column 9, lines 45-52) of the status of a process (execution situation, column 9, lines 50-52) notified from at least any of said job accepting means, said generating means and said printing means.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 2-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kurachi as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Hanson (US 6,148,346).

Regarding claim 2: Kurachi does not teach wherein said printer is to be connected to said host machine through an exclusive interface.

Hanson, in the same area of connecting printer to a host and printer providing management information for the host (fig. 6-8); teaches the printer providing management information connected to a host can be connected by either a network connection or a through an exclusive interface (column 4, lines 15-20).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Kurachi to include: the printer is to be connected to said host machine through an exclusive interface.

It would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Kurachi's printer connection method by the teaching of Hanson because of the following reasons: (a) since Hanson teaches some printer providing management information for a host is connected to the host through an exclusive interface; it would have allowed Kurachi's invention to be extended to the printer system that printer is to be connected to a host machine through an exclusive interface; (b) it would have generated more users using Kurachi's invention and thereby, increase productivity to generate more profit; and (c) increase in productivity would reduce the cost of producing the product and thereby; consumer would benefit by paying a lesser price.

Regarding claim 3: Kurachi teaches wherein said accepting means includes extracting means (the program that extract print data in unit of pages, column 11, lines 25-35, column 9, lines 19-24, and generate rough images for the page) for extracting, on a job unit basis, print job data from among a series of reception data (the reception of a print job which include many pages) accepted from said host machine through said exclusive interface, said assigning means assigning identifying information (the information that identifies different pages, column 11, lines 19-35) to the extracted print job data.

Regarding claim 4: Kurachi teaches the printer further comprising spool means (column 10, lines 45-50; the normal meaning of spool is to store data document in a queue, where it awaits its turn to be printed) for storing the print job data assigned with the job identifying information to be outputted in a predetermined order, said generating

means interpreting (3b, 3c, and 3d, fig. 3) the print job data to be outputted from said spool means and generating image data.

7. Claims 5 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kurachi and Hanson as applied to claim 2, 3, 4 above, and further in view of Reilly et al (US 5,754,747).

Regarding claim 5: Kurachi teaches the print jobs are written in a form of page description language to be transmitted to the printer for interpretation (column 9, lines 40-45).

Kurachi does not teach wherein said extracting means searches for predetermined language identifying information from among the series of reception data and specifies a language kind of the print job data to be extracted.

Reilly, in the same area of sending page description language print jobs to a printer for interpretation, teaches print job are written in different kinds of languages and it would require different interpreter to interpret the different kinds of language (column 6, lines 1-17. Note: In order for a machine to distinguish the different kind of languages, the print job must have language identifying information to be search by the print job extraction means.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Kurachi to include: the extracting means searches for predetermined language identifying information from among the

series of reception print job data and specifies a language kind of the print job data to be extracted.

It would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Kurachi by the teaching of Reilly because of the following reasons: (a) it would have allowed Kurachi's system to accept print job created using different languages from different computer systems of different users; (b) it would have generated more users using Kurachi's invention and thereby, increase productivity to generate more profit; and (c) increase in productivity would reduce the cost of producing the product and thereby; consumer would benefit by paying a lesser price.

Regarding claim 6: Kurachi teaches wherein the extracting means extracts print job data from among the series of reception data on the basis of end-edge pattern data corresponding to the specified language kind.

Since Kurachi teaches to accept multiple print jobs, detecting the start and the end of a print job is inherent on Kurachi's system.

Note: the end-edge pattern data is being interprets as the data that would allow the system to detect the end of a print job.

Conclusion

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to King Y. Poon whose telephone number is (571) 272-7440.

4/4/05

KING Y. POON
PRIMARY EXAMINER